

## Today's News - Thursday, September 12, 2013

- Heathcote offers a fascinating overview of how cities in crisis are using "urban ingenuity" where "innovative, often surprising initiatives may hold clues to ways of change."
- Jaffe takes a look at how things are coming along at some of the most touted "cities of the future" - and when/if they might actually arrive.
- Genevro and Wade introduce "The Five Thousand Pound Life," the Arch League's ambitious new initiative "to raise our collective discussion of living sustainably to a higher register."
- Taylor-Hochberg looks into "the impact and responsibility of contemporary architectural design," and why "architects and clients must empathize with the users of their projects."
- Brake explores NYC's new Hunter's Point South Park and finds it "a good example of when Bloomberg's integrated approach to architecture, landscape, real estate development, and public services actually lived up to his vision."
- Baillieu calls on RIBA "to drop the theorizing": Hodder wants "to find hard evidence" of the value of good design, but "why waste time on something that is likely to languish in ministers' bottom drawers - if indeed it ever gets that far?"
- In Melbourne, two proposed towers draw some towering concerns while their architects cheer on their designs.
- Why the Flinders Street Station may never be built that "has led to claims that the competition was 'a waste of money,'" and "should not have been initiated if there was no certainty of construction."
- Seoul has soaring plans for an "invisible" tower that will include a roller coaster, water park, and lots of leisure stuff (an invisible tower near the airport?!?!?).
- Brussat broils over the "latest news in bad-boy buildings."
- San Francisco Mexican Museum adds to its already-impressive architecture team.
- An interesting take on "how Gothic architecture took over the American college campus: Colleges look medieval partly because of envy, industrialism, and ... racism" (sure to spark some comments!).
- An impressive list of winners in the 2013 Toronto Urban Design Awards.
- Five make the final cut in the Nordic Built Challenge.
- Some truly inspiring projects make the shortlist in the ICSID'S World Design Impact Prize 2013-2014.
- Eyefuls of the winner, runners-up, and finalists in the Buckminster Fuller Institute's competition to reinterpret Bucky's Dymaxion Map.
- Call for entries deadline reminder: 3rd Edition IS ARCH Awards for Architecture Students.

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Crisis-stricken cities can fight back with ingenious solutions: ...cities can be volatile...Yet growth brings its own problems...Perhaps it is precisely in these kinds of crises that urban ingenuity has the opportunity to emerge and have a real effect...innovative, often surprising initiatives may hold clues to ways of change. By Edwin Heathcote - Financial Times (UK)

How Are Those Cities of the Future Coming Along? A brief update on PlanIT Valley, Masdar, Konza Techno City, and Songdo: ...how things are coming along, and when these cities of the future might arrive. By Eric Jaffe [\[images, links\]](#)- The Atlantic Cities

The Five Thousand Pound Life: The Architectural League announces an ambitious initiative to raise our collective discussion of living sustainably to a higher register, imagining the systemic change needed to live well, and to live well within the carrying capacity of the planet. By Rosalie Genevro and Andrew Wade - Urban Omnibus

AfterShock #1: Architectural Consumers in the Experience Economy: ...the impact and responsibility of contemporary architectural design...Architects and clients must empathize with the users of their projects...when considering the "generic" user, how does one relate to the architectural art form, and how should those creating architecture understand that relation? By Amelia Taylor-Hochberg - Archinect

Crit> Hunter's Point South Park: Alan G. Brake explores New York's newest waterfront park by Thomas Balsley Associates and Weiss/Månfredi: ...a good example of when Bloomberg's integrated approach to architecture, landscape, real estate development, and public services actually lived up to his vision. [\[images\]](#)- The Architect's Newspaper

It's time for the RIBA to drop the theorising and move on: Angela Brady was a good president, but it's time the institute danced to a different tune: Stephen Hodder...wants the RIBA to find hard evidence that good design brings economic value, improves performance, and even engenders a sense of community...why waste time on something that is likely to languish in ministers' bottom drawers -- if indeed it ever gets that far? By Amanda Baillieu - BD/Building Design (UK)

The tower that's dividing Melbourne: Its creators have labelled it an "elegant" urban icon, but a damning Melbourne City Council report has warned a new 72-storey apartment building...would oppress and stifle the neighbours...conclusions have been fiercely rebuffed by the building's designer...Council has also raised significant concerns about another tower hailed by its creators for its innovative design. -- BKK Architects; HASSELL - The Age (Australia)

Herzog & de Meuron + HASSELL's Flinders Street Station [in Melbourne] may never be built: State Government has of yet, refused to promise funding for the design...This has led to claims that the competition was "a waste of money", and that it should not have been initiated if there was no certainty of construction. [\[images\]](#)- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Coming soon: World's first 'invisible' tower: ...Tower Infinity will top out at 450 meters (1,476 feet) and have the third highest observation deck in the world...will be built just outside of Seoul near the Incheon International Airport...used primarily for leisure activities...a series of observation decks, a movie theater, roller coaster, water park... -- GDS Architects [\[images\]](#)- CNN

The latest news in bad-boy buildings: ...what doesn't wash out in the laundry list of modern architecture's flaws are its most basic attributes. [Its] overheated need for novelty breeds over-dependence on engineers, undermines the possibility of civilized urbanism and generates derisive monikers from the public..."Wow" is the new beautiful. By David Brussat - Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

Mexican Museum adds to architecture team: ...joint venture team of A+D, Architecture and Design and Pfau Long Architecture...will work closely with two firms previously selected... -- Glenn Rescalvo/Handel Architects; Enrique Norton/TEN Arquitectos - San Francisco Business Times

How Gothic Architecture Took Over the American College Campus: Colleges look medieval partly because of envy, industrialism, and ... racism.- The Atlantic

Winners of the 2013 Toronto Urban Design Awards announced -- James KM Cheng Architects/Hariri Pontarini Architects/Zhang Huan/The Design Agency; Studio Junction; Athos Zaghi Architects/Atelier Kastelic Buffey (AKB); Quadrangle Architects/RAW Design/Seven Haus Design; Stantec Architecture/ERA Architects/gh3; G. Bruce Stratton Architects; MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects (MJMA)/PMA Landscape Architects/The Planning Partnership; architectsAlliance/NAK Design; DTAH Architects/Diamond Schmitt Architects/Claude Cormier + Associés/ERA Architects;

[etc.](#) - City of Toronto

5 Winners of the Nordic Built Challenge: ...initiated by the Nordic ministers for trade and industry...will be considered for the overall Nordic Built Challenge Award and a prize of NOK 1.000.000. -- KVA Architects; NCC Construction Sverige; VA Architects; Adam Khan Architects/Daniel Serafimovski Architects/Kristine Jensens Tegnestue, Landscape Architects; schmidt hammer lassen architects/LOOP architects [images] - Nordic Built

ICSID'S World Design Impact Prize 2013-2014: 26 Nominated Projects Announced: ... from research projects and pilot programmes to more established industrial design driven initiatives. [images, info] - International Council of Societies of Industrial Design (Icsid)

DYMAX REDUX Winner: ...an open call to create a new and inspiring interpretation of Buckminster Fuller's Dymaxion Map. Dymaxion Wood Ocean World by Nicole Santucci of Woodcut Maps (San Francisco, CA)...the winner out of a pool of over 300 entrants from 42 countries....11 finalists... [images] - Buckminster Fuller Institute

Call for entries deadline reminder: 3rd Edition IS ARCH Awards for Architecture Students; cash prizes; early registration (save money): September 29 (submission deadline: November 4)-- ISARCH

Monterey Design Conference: 1 Mile of Beach. 3 Days. 20 Speakers. 50 Hours. 100s of Conversations. 1,000s of Ideas: The Julia Morgan-designed Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, CA, will be abuzz at the biennial event September 27-29, 2013. By Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA/LA- ArchNewsNow



-- The Art of the Possible: The pressure was on Saint Petersburg's recently completed Mariinsky II...managed to work around the leftovers from another architect's half-finished project and still make a building with distinct qualities is in itself an admirable feat. By Jakob Harry Hybel -- Eric Owen Moss; Dominique Perrault; Diamond Schmitt Architects  
-- UNStudio: ...led by research and material innovation to remarkable results...

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